

Aviator's Night Vision Imaging System (ANVIS), AN/AVS-6



Mission

Enable aviators to operate more effectively and safely day or night and under degraded battlefield conditions.

Description and Specifications

The **Aviator's Night Vision Imaging System (ANVIS)**, **AN/AVS-6**, is a helmet-mounted, direct-view, third-generation, image-intensification pilotage device that enables flight operations under very low ambient-light conditions. Power is supplied by a helmet-mounted dual battery pack or from aircraft-supplied power.

The AN/AVS-6 or ANVIS-6 used by the Army has lenses that incorporate class-A minus-blue filtering, which significantly reduces the radiance of the low night sky. The ANVIS-6 has been issued in several versions since its original fielding in the mid-1980s. The first was the AN/AVS-6(V)1, with early third-generation tubes effective to approximately quarter-moon conditions, 15mm eye relief, and single eyespan adjustment knob. The AN/AVS-6(V)2 was identical to the (V)1 except that it had an offset mounting arrangement specially designed for the Cobra helicopter. The AN/AVS-6(V)1A had improved tubes capable of operating down to nearly starlight conditions, 25mm eye relief, and dual eyespan adjustment knobs.

The AN/AVS-6(V)3 incorporates all the improvements of the (V)1A, plus enhanced third-generation technology, (a combination of new, gated power supply technology and thin-film tube design), a new fine-focus objective lens, and a new low-profile battery pack. The low-light sensitivity of the (V)3 exceeds that of the (V)1A by about 10 percent and that of the earliest (V)1 by about 35 percent to 40 percent. Additionally, the gated power supply enables the (V)3 to operate in significantly higher light level conditions than any of the previous designs. All ANVIS are capable of operating for 24 hours or more on one pair of AA batteries.